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Ministry of
Treasury, Economics
and Inter-
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Affairs
 pamphlets

Partners in
Government

Provincial-Municipal Liaison Committee

Partners in Government

The Provincial-Municipal Liaison Committee is an outstanding example of participatory democracy in the conduct of Ontario's public affairs. It was formed as a result of the Provincial-Municipal Conference in April 1970, and is a tangible expression of the provincial-municipal partnership concept in action.

The committee considers all matters relating to the role, status and responsibilities of local government in Ontario—including provincial policy proposals affecting the municipal level of government.

It is composed of:

- The Provincial Cabinet: Cabinet ministers attend when policies and proposals for which they are responsible are being discussed.
- The Municipal Liaison Committee: This is composed of representatives from the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Association of Counties and Regions of Ontario, the Ontario Association of Rural Municipalities and the Municipality of Metropolitan Toronto.

The PMLC is co-chaired by the Treasurer of Ontario, John White, and the Chairman of the Municipal Liaison Committee, Mayor D. G. Newman, Town of Whitby.

Open to the Public

Meetings are usually held on the second Friday of each month. Federal-Provincial-Municipal Committee meetings (PMLC meetings with federal participation) are normally held quarterly. Both PMLC and FPMLC meetings are open to the press and the public.

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Agendas range across the entire gamut of local government affairs. At the June 1974 meeting, for instance, the Honourable Rene Brunelle, Minister of Community and Social Services, summarized the findings of the Task Force on Community and Social Services. As a result, representatives of the Municipal Liaison Committee were invited to join in a study of the task force recommendations, including any legislative proposals.

At the same meeting, other major items discussed included the Task Force on Policing, the Select Committee on Motorized Snowmobiles and All-Terrain Vehicles, An Act to Impose a Tax on Land Speculation, An Act to Amend the Assessment Act, and the province's housing program. In all of these discussions, the minister or committee chairman responsible was on hand to hear the views and comments of municipal representatives.

Examples of other agenda items include county restructuring, the provincial budget, The Municipal Elections Act, the local government management improvement program, and uniform store hours legislation.

Municipal In-put

Since its inception, the PMLC has made an effort to encourage greater local awareness of the on-going provincial-municipal consultative process and of the provincial emphasis on municipal in-put into the Ontario Government's programs, policies and legislation. With this in mind, PMLC meetings have already been held outside Toronto in such places as Niagara Falls and Oshawa.

Support services to the committee are provided by the Provincial-Municipal Affairs Secretariat of the Ministry of Treasury, Economics and Inter-governmental Affairs, Frost Building South, Queen's Park.

If your municipality has an item of interest for a future PMLC meeting, contact either your municipal association, the Municipal Liaison Committee, or the Provincial-Municipal Affairs Secretariat.

Municipal Liaison Committee



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